

that if an attorney has already selected a panel and is midpanel, let's say, in this six month or nine month or twelve month proceeding, as of the effective date of this act he can elect to abandon the panel and file a suit immediately. That was the intent of the bill to make the panel voluntary but this makes it clear that it is voluntary even for cases where the panel proceedings have already been instituted. Now the second thing these amendments do is they make it clear that if an attorney wants to waive the panel, he doesn't have to convene the panel, go through all the effort of selecting the doctors, convening the panel and then saying to the panel, I want to waive you and sue directly in court. Now this isn't going to mean a lot to those of you that are not familiar with the act but both of these are technical and they will make the act work better after it is implemented and it will make the intent clearer with respect to what we are trying to do with this. So that is what the amendments do, and I move their adoption. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER NICHOL: The question is the adoption of the Hoagland amendment to the committee amendments. Would all those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Have you all voted? Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 10 ayes, 2 nays on adoption of Senator Hoagland's amendment to the committee amendments.

SPEAKER NICHOL: The amendments to the amendments are adopted. Back to the committee amendments. Anything else, Mr. Clerk?

CLERK: Mr. President, then in that case Senator DeCamp would move to amend the committee amendments.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Okay, Senator DeCamp.

SENATOR DECAMP: Mr. President, what I am going to do now is I am going to hand you out a white copy and it incorporates the committee amendments, the original bill and the specific amendments I am going to offer now so you can read them all together. Let me explain what the amendments I am offering